

Appln No. 09/918,026  
Customer No. 36441  
Response dated December 30, 2003

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application.

#### Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended). ~~A compound~~ An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a coding region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human acyl CoA cholesterol acyltransferase-2 (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said region and inhibits the expression of human acyl CoA cholesterol acyltransferase-2 by at least 40%.

Claims 2 - 3 (Canceled).

4 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 2 ~~1 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide~~ which comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 2 ~~1 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide~~ which comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

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7(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim ~~2~~ 1 ~~which wherein the antisense oligonucleotide~~ comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim ~~2~~ 1 ~~wherein the antisense oligonucleotide~~ which is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11(Canceled).

12(Currently Amended). A composition comprising the ~~compound~~ antisense oligonucleotide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claims 14-20(Canceled).